



Pursue Your it® Program

Mission

The Pursue Your it® Program is a personal development program designed to address the social and emotional learning needs of students beginning with late elementary – aged children and continuing through high school. The program helps foster students' personal growth including successful communication skills, conflict resolution, positive management of emotional responses, decision – making skills, and goal – setting. Students will recognize their leadership potential by becoming more self – aware, focused, resilient, and committed to their goals. These social – emotional skills are necessary for young students to see the endless possibilities available to them if they commit to personal growth, while becoming dedicated to themselves and their goals no matter what their circumstances may be.

Program Overview

The Pursue Your it® Program is designed to promote college and career readiness. The program is aligned to the social and emotional learning benchmarks for New York State schools, which include developing self-awareness and self-management skills essential to success in school and life. This program teaches interpersonal skills to establish and maintain positive relationships, ethical decision-making skills and responsible behaviors in personal, school, and community contexts. The lessons and activities directly target the individual learning standards for each social and emotional learning benchmark.

The Program starts with a keynote, given by Cindy Miller, to all students. This speech is the key component to **The Pursue Your it® Program**. Cindy will introduce the students to the **it®** box, which contains three unique items, that if found alone simply have one purpose, but together they represent the steps that are needed to be taken to pursue your **it®**.

Next, students will complete two online assessments, which will teach them about their personal behavior and motivation. These assessments are valuable tools in addressing the social and emotional learning needs of students.

Students will participate in six workshop sessions that will teach them how to understand their purpose, pursue their passion, and realize their potential for success.

Session 1 – Who am I?

Cindy will review the students' online behavior assessment results. Students will identify their own behavioral strengths and their areas of achievable improvement.

Session 2 – The Nail

Are you trying to stop the pain, or seek the reward? Students will evaluate their own behavior and how to adapt their behavior to promote positive interactions with their peers and adults by identifying others' behavioral styles.

Session 3 – The Mirror

Cindy will review the students' online motivation assessment results. Students will learn about the 7 motivators and recognize which 2 motivators push them to be most successful. Students will link occupations and/or careers to their behavioral and motivation styles.

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Session 4 – The Seed

Students have identified their “why”, recognized their strengths and areas of achievable improvement, and acknowledged their personal motivators. It is now time to start the process! Create a plan, make a list of steps, and identify possible obstacles. What do you need to do to pursue, and ultimately achieve your **it**®?

Session 5 – Visions of the Future

Each student will create a Vision Board, which will reflect their behavior, motivation, and goals for a successful future.

Session 6 – Graduation

Students will display and discuss their Vision Boards.

Program Impact

Students will develop a positive, growth mindset and increased motivation to succeed, measurable through such areas as increased academic performance, increased school attendance, and/or decreased disciplinary infractions. Students’ personal growth will increase, in terms of communication skills, empathy, understanding behavior styles, and perseverance by addressing the social and emotional learning needs.

The People

Cindy Miller is a former LPGA Tour Player, an award-winning Class A LPGA Teaching and Club Professional, Professional Speaker, and current member of the Official Legends Tour of the LPGA. She is the founder of Pursue Your It, Inc., a non-profit 501c3 corporation whose missions is to inspire, educate, and challenge all people to pursue their personal potential.



She is a dynamic, engaging, entertaining, keynote speaker, corporate trainer, and leadership advocate who has conveyed her message to numerous Fortune 500 companies. She is a Certified Behavior, Motivation, Judgement, and Emotional Intelligence Professional. Her authentic positive nature motivates and challenges her audience to own their game; whether that game be a sport, their business, or even life itself.



Cindy is passionate about helping people learn to understand themselves; their personal behavior styles, what motivates them to action, how they make judgments, and how they can better handle their emotions. She has created the Pursue Your It Program to advocate personal development, leadership training, self-esteem, goal setting, self-confidence, communication skills, and personal empowerment.



Heather Kwiatkowski is an elementary school teacher in the Lackawanna City School District. Over her 18-year career, Heather has served in a leadership capacity as the chairperson of her school’s Building Leadership Team and Parent Engagement Committee, as well as assisting with curriculum development, writing, and integration of online curriculum resources. Heather earned a BA in Education in 2001 from Canisius College and a MS in Reading in 2002 from St. Bonaventure University. She is certified in the areas of Prekindergarten to Grade 6, Secondary English, and Reading Grades K through 12. In addition to her current teaching position, Heather also serves as a consultant to the Teacher Leadership Quality Partnership at Daemen College.



The Pursue Your It Foundation – (501c3 nonprofit organization)

Pursue Your It, Inc. Training, Fundraising, Scholarship & Grant Program was formed by award-winning LPGA and PGA Tour golf coaches to inspire individuals to pursue their personal potential. Our personal development program teaches students to be more self-aware, focused, resilient, and committed to their goals

Pursue Your It, Inc. produces events and programs designed to foster personal growth, competitive excellence, and to grow the Pursue Your It Scholarship and Grant Program. Pilots in development are:



Pursue Your It Youth Pilot has been delivered within The Buffalo Promise Neighborhood at Westminster Community Charter School. Eight seventh grade students applied to participate in the program. They completed their program in the Fall of 2017. Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Erie County completed their program in Winter 2018, Lackawanna Martin Road Elementary delivered the program to twenty fifth grade students.

Our goal is to create and deliver half day workshops, full day seminars, and six-week on site programs at selected public and private schools across America. The message of the **it**[®] box will be shared. The program consists of speakers, personal assessments, and workshops that teach students how to pursue their **it**[®]. Our mission is to give the students the tools they need to become successful in school and life.

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Below is the sample Youth Behavior Assessment. Definitions of each word are available to the student when they hover over the question mark. The students are asked to choose one or two words that best describe them. Each student will learn the results of their assessment report during the sessions. They will understand their personal assets, potential barriers, and make a personal plan to implement their discoveries.



Pursue Your It

Thank you for investing your time to complete the Pursue Your It Assessment report. Knowing who you are, how you think, and what motivates you to action will help you in all facets of your life. People who know themselves will always be better off than those who do not.

There are thirty sets of four words. Choices are horizontal in rows. Please pick at least one of the four words that best describes you. If there are two words that really fit, feel free to choose two of the four words. You cannot choose more than two. If you are not sure what each word means, there is a question mark by the word. When you hover over the question mark, pop up definitions appear. Typically, you first response is the best. There are no right or wrong answers. Have some fun!

First name:

Last name:

Email:

School:

Grade:

<input type="checkbox"/> Argumentative ?	<input type="checkbox"/> Alienated ?	<input type="checkbox"/> Angered Easily ?	<input type="checkbox"/> Aimless ?
<input type="checkbox"/> Leader ?	<input type="checkbox"/> Loyal ?	<input type="checkbox"/> Lively ?	<input type="checkbox"/> Listener ?
<input type="checkbox"/> Short-Tempered ?	<input type="checkbox"/> Sluggish ?	<input type="checkbox"/> Scatterbrained ?	<input type="checkbox"/> Suspicious ?
<input type="checkbox"/> Disorganized ?	<input type="checkbox"/> Doubtful ?	<input type="checkbox"/> Domineering ?	<input type="checkbox"/> Depressed ?
<input type="checkbox"/> Friendly ?	<input type="checkbox"/> Faithful ?	<input type="checkbox"/> Forceful ?	<input type="checkbox"/> Funny ?



Pursue Your It Foundation

Pursue Your It, Inc. is seeking donors, sponsors and business partners to further the mission.

IMMEDIATE FUNDRAISING GOAL: \$1,000,000

- Curriculum Development
- Creating School Programs
- Assessment Purchases
- Speaker Fees
- Facility Fees
- Teacher Certification Training
- Legal and Financial Partners
- Sports Marketing Partners – Sponsorship Acquisition
- Webhosting Partner – Pursue Your It Portal- Application Creation
- Travel Expenses
- Supplies- Boxes, Medallions, Key Chains, Shirts
- Workbooks
- Folders
- Creation of Youth Summit- Deliver the Program to Major Cities
- Advertising
- Utilities
- Video Production
- Leadership Curriculum Development- Stage Two of **it**®

Funding Sources

- Private Donations
- The Jim Kelly Grant- Kelly Cares Foundation
- JP Morgan Chase
- Memberships



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Pursue Your It Foundation, Inc.
Board of Directors - 2018

Gary Kanaley, Chairman – Gary is a partner at the Buffalo, NY law firm of Duke Holzman Photiadis & Gresens LLP. He is a member of the Erie County Bar Association and NYS Bar Association. In 2012 Gary received an AV rating on Martindale Hubbell and was recognized in Business First's Who's Who in Law. He was selected to the Upstate NY Super Layers List in 2013. Gary previously served as a member of the board of directors for the Kidney Foundation of Western NY, Lake Shore Hospital and the Hamburg Development Corporation. He currently serves in the capacity of director in a number of privately held Western NY companies.

Gary received his BS, MBA and Law degree from SUNY at Buffalo.

Cindy Miller, President — Cindy is a Ladies Professional Golf Association {LPGA} professional, behavioral analyst, author, motivational speaker, and CEO of Cindy Miller Golf. She is the founder of Pursue Your It, Inc., and believes that all children have the potential to pursue their IT when given the opportunity.

Cindy received her BA degree in physical education from the University of Miami and is a graduate of The Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership at The University of Buffalo.

Jeremy Blecha, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer — Jeremy is the Senior Manager for the audit department at Tronconi Segarra & Associates LLP. Jeremy is a Certified Public Accountant with over 9 years of experience. He is an active participant in several community organizations.

Jeremy received his BS degree in Business Administration from SUNY at Buffalo.

Jamie Miller — Is a financial specialist at Morgan Stanley. Prior to joining the firm, he competed as a professional golfer on various mini tours throughout the United States, Canada and Mexico. He is an active amateur golfer in the Northeast and volunteers for various golf associations.

Jamie received his B.B.A in Finance at Augusta State University.

Erica Miller— Is the chief operating officer at Robert J. Miller & Associates, Inc. a grants development and fund-raising firm located in Tonawanda, NY.

Erica received her BA and MA in Business Communications from John Carroll University.

Rob Drago- Is the President of Canalside Advisors, LLC. Their services include restructuring/turnaround management, strategic planning, acquisition support, employee coaching and board development.

Rob received his B.S. in Finance from Babson College and an M.B.A. from the University of Buffalo.